

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A gel processing and transfer device, useful for the processing and transferring of ~~[[the]]~~ gels with minimal handling, said device comprising ~~at least 4 separable components namely:~~ a base plate having a planar configuration for holding the gels, with the base plate having facility to drain out solution; a retaining rim ~~with attached side walls, said side walls are~~ fastened to the base plate by a fastening means; at least one "O" ring fixed to the retaining rim to give leakproof arrangement with the base plate; and a lid to cover the ~~[[assembly]]~~ retaining rim fastened to the base plate, with the retaining rim including a side wall in the form of a tube and having a top and a bottom, with the retaining rim further including a horizontal plate attached to and extending exterior to the side wall, with the horizontal plate located intermediate the top and the bottom of the side wall such that the side wall includes a protruded portion protruding beyond the horizontal plate, with a space defined between the horizontal plate and the base plate and outwardly of the protruded portion of the side wall, with the at least one "O" ring located in the space.

2. (canceled).

3. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base plate ~~[[used]]~~ is made up of materials selected from the group consisting comprising of~~[[,]]~~ polycarbonate, acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene dimethylene terephthalate)glycol and metals.

4. (original) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base plate has a thickness of at least 1 mm.

5. (canceled).

6. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the base plate has a drain-out device to decant the ~~pooured~~ drained out solution.

7. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the drain-out device has a hole cut in ~~center on one side of~~ the base plate.

8. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the hole of the drain-out device has a nozzle ~~attached cut to fit the size of the object of invention.~~

9. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the nozzle on the drain-out device~~[[,]]~~ is made up of materials selected from the group comprising consisting of~~[[,]]~~ polycarbonate, acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester,

polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene dimethylene terephthalate)glycol and metals.

10. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the nozzle on the drain-out device has a tubing attached ~~[[to it]]~~ **thereto**.

11. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the tube is made up of materials selected from the group ~~comprising~~ **consisting** of~~[[,]]~~ rubber, latex rubber, silicone, platinum-cured silicone (for high purity and no peroxides), C-Flex (an opaque white thermoplastic elastomer formulated from styrene-ethylene-butadiene-styrene block co-polymer, low density polyethylene, fluorinated ethylene-propylene, teflon polytetrafluoroethylene and silicone.

12. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the tube ~~may be of any convenient length with~~ **has an** inner diameter that fits exactly to ~~[[the]]~~ **an** open end of the nozzle and fixed with a clamp to control the flow of the solution.

13. (canceled).

14. (canceled).

15. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the retaining rim is made up materials selected from the group consisting of~~[[,]]~~ polycarbonate, acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene dimethylene terephthalate)glycol and metals.

16. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the retaining rim ~~[[used]]~~ has a thickness of at least 1 mm.

17. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~retaining rim side wall~~ has ~~sidewalls of~~ **a** height of ~~atleast~~ **at least** 1 cm.

18. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 17, wherein the ~~side-walls side wall~~ of the retaining rim ~~[[are]]~~ **is** attached perpendicular to ~~the~~ horizontal ~~plates and 2 cm wide from the horizontal plates to ensure that the horizontal plates are always outside the side-walls plate~~.

19. (canceled).

20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the fastening means ~~are selected from the group comprising of nut~~ **comprise nuts** and bolts, ~~clamps, bolts with plastic fitted caps and nuts engraved in the base plate~~.

22. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the fastening means ~~[[is]]~~ are made ~~[[up]]~~ of materials selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylenedimethylene terephthalate) glycol and metals.

23. (canceled).

24. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 23, wherein the O ring is made ~~[[up]]~~ of ~~[[the]]~~ materials selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of rubber, latex rubber, silicone, platinum-cured silicone (for high purity and no peroxides), C-Flex (an opaque white thermoplastic elastomer formulated from styrene-ethylene-butadiene-styrene block co-polymer), low density polyethylene, fluorinated ethylene-propylene, teflon polytetrafluoroethylene and silicone.

25. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 23, wherein the "O" ring ~~[[used]]~~ is fitted around the protruded portion of the ~~sidewalls~~ side wall of the retaining rim.

26. (canceled).

27. (canceled).

28. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the lid ~~[[used]]~~ is made ~~[[up]]~~ of ~~[[the]]~~ materials selected from the group ~~comprising~~ consisting of polycarbonate, acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene dimethylene terephthalate)glycol and metals.

29. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the lid ~~[[used]]~~ has a thickness of at least 1 mm.

30. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the lid rests on the top of the side ~~[[walls]]~~ wall of the retaining rim ~~and can be easily covered and removed~~.

31. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the lid ~~as-used~~ has ~~atleast~~ at least four protrusions ~~attached onto the top~~, that keep the lid fixed~~[[,]]~~ onto the side ~~[[walls]]~~ wall of the retaining rim from outside ~~and the dimension of which depend upon the height of the side walls of the retaining rim~~.

32. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the protrusions ~~[[in]]~~ of the lid ~~as-used, is selected~~ are made from ~~[[the]]~~ material~~[[,]]~~ selected from the group consisting of~~[[,]]~~ polycarbonate, acrylic, plexiglas, glass, plastic, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyester, polymethacrylate, poly(1,4-cyclohexylene dimethylene terephthalate)glycol or metal

~~of choice, but is not limited to the said group.~~

33. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 27, wherein the protrusions on the lid[[, has]] have a thickness of at least 1mm.

34. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ~~various parts~~ retaining rim and the lid are moulded, ~~a better finished and more durable product will be produced.~~

35. (canceled).

36. (canceled).

37. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is constructed with autoclavable material ~~ensures sterile environment to the gel.~~

38. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is constructed with metal with no heat-sensitive component ~~has uses in food industry particularly will be useful to bake cake, bread and/or the like with no damage to the product.~~

39. (canceled).

40. (currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the device is transparent to ~~various lights, translucent, opaque, impermeable to light or the like material.~~

41. (new) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a rubber strip in the space and between the horizontal plate and the base plate, with the at least one "O" ring located intermediate the rubber strip and the protruded part.